

REMARKS

Claims 1-52 remain in the application with claims 1, 3, 4, 18, 21, 24, 33, 40, and 50-52 having been amended hereby and new claim 53 having been added.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the objection to the Abstract.

A new Abstract has been proposed that is intended to meet all requirements of MPEP 608.01(b).

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the objection to the title.

A new title has been proposed that is intended to be more clearly indicative of the invention to which the amended claims are directed.

Notice is respectfully taken of the indication that claims 14, 29, and 40 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Nevertheless, in view of the amendments made to the claims hereby, it is respectfully submitted that claims 14, 29, and 40 are nonetheless allowable in their dependent form.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1-5, 7-13, 15-22, 24-28, 30-39, 41-48, and 50-52 under 35 USC 102(e), as being anticipated by Du et al.

The present invention relates to a system for writing and reproducing data that has typically been processed by some process such as compression. More importantly, however, is the feature of the present invention in which the data that is

being reproduced can be independent from the data that is being processed for storage. In other words, by employing the controller according to the present invention, it is possible to process data during the time that the decompressed data is being produced by a reproducing unit. In other words, the present invention can perform two different tasks simultaneously. One such task being reproduction of decompressed data and the other such task being processing of data.

The claims have been amended hereby to emphasize the above-noted feature of the present invention.

Du et al. also relates to recording and reproducing compressed audio data and specifically discloses the compression and recording of the data for subsequent decompression and playback as an audio signal. Contrary to the claimed features of the present invention, the system of Du et al. it cannot process the data during reproduction of decompressed data by a reproducing means, as taught by the present invention and as recited in the amended claims.

Although Du et al. can reproduce decompressed data, it cannot convert inputted data of a first compression format into data of a second compression format during reproducing of the data by the reproducing means, as taught by the present invention and as recited in the amended claims. In other words the reproduced data is not independent of the processed data.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the

present invention, as recited in the amended claims, is not anticipated by the system of Du et al.

The references cited as of interest have been reviewed and are not seen to show or suggest the present invention as recited in the amended claims.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

COOPER & DUNHAM LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay H. Maioli". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jay H. Maioli
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JHM:gdl